UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

ORIGINAL

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REPLY TO: 3450 Forest Insect & Disease Administration June 20, 1979

SUBJECT: Blowdown of Red Pine on Bradford R.D.

TO: Forest Supervisor
Allegheny National Forest

Red pine plantations damaged by a winter ice storm near Camp Cornplanter and along Forest Route 272 on the Bradford R.D. were examined by Delaware Field Office personnel on April 20, 1979, and on June 14, 1979. This blowdown (41 acres) left many sawlog size red pine susceptible to attack by pine engravers (Ips spp.). During the June 14, examination, Ips beetles were found infesting logs at a log deck on Forest Route 360. Since these red pine stands add much to the aesthetic experience of this area, some action is necessary to prevent attack of the residual stand during salvage operations.

At the site along Forest Route 360 an inexpensive and fairly effective direct control alternative is possible using the logs on the log deck as trap logs. Felled material is more attractive to Ips beetles than healthy material since resins from the felled material as well as pheromones from successful attackers act as attractants to other beetles in the area.

Logs should remain on the deck not more than three weeks after being cut. This will allow adults to attack the logs, but will not allow the next generation to emerge and infest trees nearby. When infested logs are removed from any area they should be processed immediately. If this is not possible then logs should be stored several miles from the nearest pine plantation so that emerging adults will be unable to find suitable hosts.

A similar technique could be used in the other damaged stands that will not be salvaged immediately. Three or four trees in each stand (evenly distributed) could be felled and left in place to act as trap trees. In 2-3 weeks, these trees should be bucked up and destroyed.

In both situations slash should be broken up and scattered to aid in drying. No slash should be piled around the base of standing trees.

Any blowdowns that have maintained root contact should not be cut away from their stumps. These trees may remain vigorous enough to resist beetle attack until the contractor can reach them. However, some could be used as trap trees in those areas that will not be salvaged immediately.

The sale administrator should examine any trees damaged during salvage operations. If evidence of attack by bark beetles is present (red boring dust, entrance holes, red crowns), infested trees should be marked for removal.

Reference material on the identification and control of pine engraver beetles is being sent directly to the Bradford R.D. along with a copy of this letter. Delaware Field Office personnel will examine the infested stands in late July for any signs of damage to the residual stand.

Lew R. McCreary

for ROBERT G. DOERNER
Field Representative
Forest Insect & Disease Administration

LRM:sl

cc: Bradford R.D.
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